

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2471

ANSWERED ON:13.03.2001

WASTELAND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

A. VENKATESH NAIK;BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB;MADAN PRASAD JAISWAL;VILAS BABURAO MUTTEMWAR

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have data about the total area of wasteland in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) the funds allocated for each project under the wasteland development Programme since its implementation, State-wise and scheme-wise;
- (d) whether the Programme is not giving desired results in the country, especially in Orissa;
- (e) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (f) whether any evaluation study of the Programme has been made by the Government;
- (g) if so, the details thereof and the achievements made under the Programme during the last three years, State-wise;
- (h) the area of wasteland made cultivable during the last three years and as on date, State-wise; and
- (i) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to make the wasteland productive ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT (PROF. RITA VERMA)

(a)&(b) As per the 'Wasteland Atlas of India,2000' brought out by the Department of Land Resources (DoLR) in collaboration with National Remote Sensing Agency, Hyderabad using Remote Sensing Technologies, the total extent of wastelands/degraded lands in the Country is 63.85 m. ha. The State-wise details are given at Annexure.I.

(c),(d)&(e) Wastelands are degraded lands which are currently unutilized or under-utilized and are deteriorating for lack of appropriate water and soil management or on account of natural causes. DoLR is implementing an Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP) for development of non-forest wastelands through watershed approach under the Guidelines for Watershed Development w.e.f. 1.4.95. Since then, 249 projects covering an area of 24.365 lakhs ha. have been sanctioned under this programme till date. The projects are implemented over a period of five years. Though the implementation of the programme on watershed basis is relatively new, however, the Programme is giving good results in the Programme areas including Orissa as per mid term evaluation reports of IWDP projects received from time to time.

(f),(g),(h),& (i) The evaluation of the projects under IWDP is carried out through the independent evaluator on project to project basis. In addition, institutional arrangements like State Watershed Programme Implementation and Review Committee at the State level and Watershed Development Advisory Committee at district level to monitor and review the progress of implementation of Watershed Development Programmes are also in vogue. Projects under IWDP seek to improve the productivity of wastelands to grow appropriate bio-mass especially fuel-wood and fodder as also to prevent further degradation. Hence, agricultural production are generally not feasible on such lands at the first stage of development. State-wise details of the projects sanctioned under IWDP Scheme during the last three years and also during current financial year is given at Annexure II.

ANNEXURE - I

ANNEXURE REFERED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) & (b) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2471 DUE F
REPLY ON 13.03.2001.

STATEMENT SHOWING DETAILS OF STATE-WISE WASTELANDS IN THE COUNTRY (Area in Sq. kms.)

S. No.	State	No. of districts	Total Geog. Area	Total Wastelands
	Covered	of dist.	covered area in dist.	Covered

1 Andhra Pradesh	23	275068.00	51750.19
2 Arunachal Pradesh	13	83743.00	18326.25
3 Assam	23	78438.00	20019.17
4 Bihar	55	173877.00	20997.55
5 Goa	02	3702.00	613.27
6 Gujarat	25	196024.00	43021.28
7 Haryana	19	44212.00	3733.98
8 Himachal Pradesh	12	55673.00	31659.00
9 Jammu and Kashmir	14	222236.00	65444.24
10 Karnataka	27	191791.00	20839.28
11 Kerala	14	38863.00	1448.18
12 Madhya Pradesh	62	443446.00	69713.75
13 Maharashtra	32	307690.00	53489.08
14 Manipur	09	22327.00	12948.62
15 Meghalaya	07	22429.00	9904.38
16 Mizoram	03	21081.00	4071.68
17 Nagaland	07	16579.00	8404.10
18 Orissa	30	155707.00	21341.71
19 Punjab	17	50362.00	2228.40
20 Rajasthan	32	342239.00	105639.11
21 Sikkim	04	7096.00	3569.58
22 Tripura	04	10486.00	1276.03
23 Tamil Nadu	29	130058.00	23013.90
24 Uttar Pradesh	83	294411.00	38772.80
25 West Bengal	18	88752.00	5718.48
26 Union Territories	20	10973.00	574.30
Total	584	3287263.00	638518.31

ANNEXURE - II

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (f) (g) (h) &
(i) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION
No. 2471 FOR REPLY ON 13.03.2001.

The Statement showing State-wise details of projects sanctioned under Integrated Watershed Development Programme (IWDP), during 1997-98 to 2000-01 (upto 05.03.2001).

S. No.	State	Projects (No.)	Area (in lakh ha.)
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1.	Andhra Pradesh	21	2.60
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2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	.15
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3.	Assam	8	.67
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4.	Chhattisgarh	1	.12
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5.	Harayana	1	.12
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6.	Gujarat	19	2.16
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7	Himachal Pradesh	14	1.59
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8.	Jammu & Kashmir	3	.27
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9.	Jharkhand	1	.06
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10.	Karnataka	14	1.72
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11.	Madhya Pradesh	21	1.87
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12.	Maharashtra	13	1.49
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13.	Meghalaya	2	.11
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14.	Manipur	7	.66
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15.	Mizoram	4	.38
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16.	Nagaland	8	.98
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17.	Orissa	14	1.12
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18.	Rajasthan	19	1.76
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19.	Sikkim	5	.50
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20.	Tamil Nadu	18	1.41
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21.	Uttar Pradesh	26	2.91
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22.	Uttaranchal	2	.24
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Total	222	22.89
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